

# Utah Citizens' Advisory Commission on Chemical Weapons Demilitarization Deseret Chemical Depot

Thursday, February 17, 2000 - 6:00 p.m.

Department Of Environmental Quality Building

## Minutes

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### ***Members Present:***

BAUER, Dan State Science Advisor	LEE, Myron Tooele Co. Emergency
BOWMAN, Dr. Jane Western GYN/OB	LEETHAM, Amy BAAH
DOWNS, Dennis DEQ	MADDOX, Jack EG&G
GRIFFITH, Gary Tooele Co. Commissioner	MESESAN, Mark EG&G
HOLT, Rosemary Women Concerned	MILLER, James DCD
HULLINGER, Sid Tooele County	OLIVER, Harold DCD
SILCOX, Dr. Geoff U of U	PAPADAKIS, Drew Citizen
WHITE, Beverly Tooele County	PARSLEY, Barbara DCD

PATE, Col. Ed DCD

### ***Guests Present:***

BARCLAY, Don E. CAMDS	READING, Karla Citizen
BILLS, Ray TOCDF	ROKICH, John CEM
BITTNER, Chris DEQ	ROWE, Michael J. EG&G
CAMPBELL, Craig TOCDF	SCHMERKER, Jeff Tooele Transcript Bulletin
COLBURN, James F. EG&G	SNELL, Dick EG&G
	SNYDER, Brady Deseret News

GRAY, Martin DEQ	STRONG, Mike Citizen
GRENIER, Roger TOCDF	VAN NOY, Heidi BAAH
GROENEWOLD, Jason F.A.I.R.	WALLACE, John TOCDF
HOLT, Reed L. OMR	WALTERS, Clara GOPB
JACKSON, David PMCD	WARBY, Clint PMCD
JOHNSON, Patty EG&G	WIDMEYER, Marjorie EG&G
JOHNSON, Susanna Sec. CAC	WITHERINGTON, Sheila Citizen
JONES, Steve EG&G	WOLF, Jim SL Tribune
LARSEN, Lorin CEM	

## **INTRODUCTION/APPROVAL OF MINUTES/CHAIRMAN - Dan Bauer**

Dan Bauer called the meeting to order and welcomed all of those in attendance. Commission members Deborah Kim, John Bennett and Dave Ostler were excused. The first order of business was to elect a new Chairman of the Citizens' Advisory Commission. Sid Hullinger made the motion that the Commission elect Dan Bauer as the new chairman. Gary Griffith seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the January 20, 2000 minutes as written. The motion carried.

Mr. Bauer discussed the public law 102-484 which established the Chemical Demilitarization Citizens Advisory Commissions. The law states that there shall be nine members who are appointed by the Governor. The Utah CAC has ten members right now. Mr. Bauer asked the CAC if they feel that there should be another commission member to replace Gen. John Matthews who retired last month. Rosemary Holt asked for a chance to read the public law 102-484 and discuss it next month.

Mr. Bauer also discussed a letter that Gen. Matthews had sent to the Centers for Disease Control regarding an assessment from the emissions from the plant since it has been in operation. The letter and the response from the CDC is attached to the minutes. (Attachment 1)

## **PROGRAM STATUS - David Jackson**

Don Barclay, Manager of CAMDS, updated the CAC on what is happening at that facility. He said that CAMDS has several projects going on at this time. Some are at the operational phase and others are in the planning preparation phase. The Material Decontamination Chamber is a test that they are currently conducting to demonstrate a thermal decontamination of the DPE material. The material is treated in the chamber - which is a large oven - and then sent off site for disposal. They are now in phase two of that project. They are in the final stages of preparation for VX sampling for TOCDF. There is a requirement that the VX stockpile has to be sampled before it can be treated at TOCDF. Therefore, CAMDS and TOCDF have jointly developed a sampling plan and submitted that to DSHW. They are currently waiting for the review by DSHW. They have recently completed the project for Alternative Technologies Assessment Program Manager at PMCD in Edgewood. Their task was to generate VX hydrolysate. They installed a VX neutralization reactor system. The VX was

mixed with sodium hydroxide in a 100 gallon reactor and once the reaction was completed they analyzed to demonstrate that it was agent free. It was then packaged in drums and shipped to Corpus Christi, Texas. There the program manager is using that material as feed stock for a super critical water oxidation unit that is to be used at the Newport facility. They were originally asked to do 40 batches but after preparing 25 batches the seal on one of the reactors went bad. Instead of going through the time to repair or replace it the program manager decided that 25 batches was enough. CAMDS is also supporting the non-stockpile program manager by providing feed stock to Dugway for the Munition Management Device testing. They will be bringing eight mustard mortars to the facility. They will remove the energetics burster from those rounds and then putting the nose closure back on them. The rounds will then be packed and shipped to Dugway.

Rosemary Holt asked Mr. Barclay to separate non-stockpile and stockpile when he makes his presentations. He said that he would. Jason Groenewold asked how extensive is the sampling of the VX and if they are looking for gelled agent. Mr. Barclay said that they have proposed to the state to perform ultra sonic testing of the VX in ton containers to identify any solids within. Mr. Groenewold also asked what trial burns will be done to process VX at CAMDS. Mr. Barclay said that they plan to conduct VX trial burns in the deactivation furnace and the liquid furnace. They have previously conducted VX trial burns in the metal furnace.

David Jackson said that he was at JACADS last week and they are in the VX campaign. When that campaign is finished the only munitions that are left are the M23 land mines. There are approximately 13,500 of those. They have destroyed 88.9% of the munitions and 86.3% of chemical agents as of 13 February 2000. Mr. Jackson added that they will probably finish operation at the close of this year.

Mr. Jackson said that the construction at Anniston is approximately 75% complete. The construction at Umatilla is 78% complete and Pine Bluff is 14% complete. Aberdeen is scheduled to begin construction in April 2000. The Newport Facility plans groundbreaking 8 April 2000.

Mr. Jackson concluded by saying that TOCDF has now destroyed more tonnage than the amount that is stored in Arkansas. Arkansas has the second largest stockpile with Utah having 40% of the nations stockpile. Pine Bluff Arsenal has the smallest.

## **PLANT STATUS - Mike Rowe**

Mr. Rowe said that they have been very active at the facility. They have been running the 105mm projectiles in combination - energetic and non-energetic. With the two lines they are running through approximately 10,000 a week. The rockets continue to be processed. A couple of times a week they stop the rocket processing and perform open pack processing. They can run about 20 to 30 a shift. They do that because it generates a lot of secondary waste which also has to be incinerated through the metal parts furnace. The ton containers will continue to be processed at about 45 to 50 a week and will continue at that pace throughout the campaign to keep the furnaces treated as they run the other munitions. There have been 242,585 hours without A Days Away from Work Case. There has not been any detectable agent release from the plant stack or vent. There has not been an Action Level 3 or 4 occurrence since the last meeting.

## **STEVE JONES PRESENTATION**

The Tooele Outreach Office transcribed the Steve Jones presentation and it is attached to the minutes.

## **DSHW REPORT - Marty Gray**

Mr. Gray began his presentation by stating that there were not any new significant modifications at TOCDF. For tonight's presentation he talked about CAMDS modifications. (attachment 2) The most significant - a class three

- of these modifications is the Tank Reactor Operation for VX HPS. This is for the VX hydrolosate that CAMDS has been making for the alternative technology program. The entire operation was done with temporary approval. If that system is not going to be used then they will scrap that modification.

Another class three modification is for the metal parts furnace to change some of the automatic waste feed cutoffs. A temporary authorization has been requested for that modification. DSHW has not yet granted that request. The public comment period has ended but DSHW is reworking the modification and will have another public comment period. There is also a request for a modification on the liquid incinerator. It is for a surrogate trial burn plan. That public comment period is open until 21 February 2000. This modification is a new concept on how to do trial burns with the incinerators. DSHW is proposing that the facility runs three runs using a surrogate material that is harder to burn than chemical agent. The final run would be with agent. The purpose of that run would be to collect data for the risk assessment. Another class three modification is to add a deactivation furnace. When the permit was issued the deactivation furnace was not in the permit. That is being added so that CAMDS can assist with demilitarization of the stockpile.

There is also a significant class two modification which is for recycling scrap metal. In the past DSHW has required the army and contractor to send their scrap metal with the f? waste code until they could prove that it was totally decontaminated. It has been proven with the GB ton containers and so DSHW has allowed them to remove the waste code when they ship the scrap metal from the ton containers. CAMDS is working to include mustard and VX into that pool.

Mr. Gray included in his presentation the compliance and enforcement actions that have been taken at CAMDS. (attachment 3) They call the inspection period an entire year. If during that year they find something that is a significant violation they work to resolve it immediately. Most of the violations are small and have been corrected before they discover them or they are taken care of quickly.

They are looking at the findings taken during the 1999 inspection and have not taken any action as yet. It will be finished in about a month.